Int. .tional Application No PCT/GB 00/01086

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 A61K31/695 A61K31/12

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{Minimum documentation searched} & \text{(classification system followed by classification symbols)} \\ \text{IPC 7} & \text{A61K} & \text{C07D} \end{array}$

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, CHEM ABS Data, EMBASE, BIOSIS

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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family members are listed in annex.
Special categories of cited documents: A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance E* earlier document but published on or after the international filling date L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means P* document published prior to the international filling date but later than the priority date claimed	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone or more other such document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
19 July 2000	27/07/2000
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2	Authorized officer
NL - 2280 HV Rijewijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Veronese, A



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FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Present claims 1-10,12-36 relate to an extremely large number of possible compounds/products. Additionally, present claims 1-36, do not meet the requirements of Rule 6.2 (a) PCT.

The definition "R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6 are (independently) hydrogen or any other moiety and X is any moiety " in claim 1, and the definition "X is an Si-containing group" of claim 3 are non-limiting; furthermore, the definition of R1 - R4 in claim 2 relates to an extremely large number of possible compounds/products; in fact, the claims contain so many options and variables, that a lack of clarity (and/or conciseness) within the meaning of Article 6 PCT arises to such an extent, as to render a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope impossible; support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and/or disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT is to be found, for only a very small proportion of the compounds/products claimed.

Also Claim 13 and 31, claiming "compound having a formula as shown in figure 10" is obscure, because no definition is given for the substituents in the mentioned formula.

Claim 36 is also obscure, not defining any technical feature. Moreover, the definition in claim 1: "...wherein the compound has higher activity than cyclopent-2-en-1-one in respect of one or more of the following:.....", relates to a compound defined by reference to a desirable characteristic or property. The claim covers all products/compounds having this characteristic or property, whereas, as already mentioned above, the application provides support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and/or disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT for only a very limited number of such products/compounds. In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Independent of the above reasoning, the claims also lack clarity (Article 6 PCT). An attempt is made to define the product/compound by reference to a result to be achieved. Again, this lack of clarity in the present case is such as to render a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope impossible. The claimed therapeutic applications "activating HSF", "inhibiting NF-kB", "inhibiting the replication of HSV-1" and " inhibiting the replication of Sendai Virus" in claim 1, "disorder affecting aquatic organism" in claim 24, "plant disorders" in claim 28 etc. etc. are not specified therapeutic applications.

Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claims which appear to be clear, supported and disclosed, namely those parts relating to the products/compounds and in relation to the medical conditions for which pharmacological data were provided in the description, in relation to the treatment of inflammation, viral infections and of ischemia, with due regard to the general idea underlying the application.

Claims searched incompletely: 1-36

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

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